

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for sending a short message from a first wireline phone to a second wireline phone comprising:
  - | sending an-a preformatted SMS (Short Message Service) message from the first wireline phone to a switch; and
  - | sending the-an SMS message from the switch to the second wireline phone, the SMS message based upon the preformatted SMS message.
2. (Original) A method for sending a short message from a first wireline phone to a second wireline phone in accordance with claim 1, the method further comprising the step of denying the SMS message at the second wireline phone.
3. (Original) A method for sending a short message from a first wireline phone to a second wireline phone in accordance with claim 1, the method further comprising the step of displaying the SMS message on a caller ID display
4. (Currently amended) A method for sending a short message from a first wireline phone to a second wireline phone in accordance with claim 21, the method further comprising the step of converting the SMS message to a voice message.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Original) A method for sending a short message from a first wireline phone to a second wireline phone in accordance with claim 1, the method further comprising the step of interworking with a wireless SMS.

7. (Original) A method for sending a short message from a wireline phone to an information provider comprising:

sending an SMS (Short Message Service) message from the wireline phone to a switch;  
sending the SMS message from the switch to the information provider; and  
sending near real-time filtered information from the information provider to the wireless phone.

8. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group, the wireline SMS group comprising a plurality of wireline phones, the method comprising:

sending a group SMS message for the wireline SMS group from the first wireline phone to a switch; and

sending the group SMS message from the switch to each of the plurality of wireline phones that are members of the wireline SMS group.

9. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group in accordance with claim 8, wherein the step of sending a group SMS message for the wireline SMS group from the first wireline phone to a switch comprises sending a group SMS message comprising a list sent in the signaling message.

10. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group in accordance with claim 8, wherein the wireline SMS group comprises a list provisioned on the switch.

11. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group in accordance with claim 10, wherein the wireline SMS group is associated with a directory number.

12. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group in accordance with claim 8, wherein the step of sending the group SMS message from the switch to each of the plurality of wireline phones comprises:

sending the group SMS message from the switch to a first wireline phone; and

sending the group SMS message from the switch to a second wireline phone via a second switch.

13. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group in accordance with claim 8, the method further comprising the step of providing voice mail notification at at least one of the plurality of wireline phones that are members of the wireline SMS group.

14. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group in accordance with claim 8, the method further comprising the step of providing e-mail interworking at at least one of the plurality of wireline phones that are members of the wireline SMS group.

15. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group in accordance with claim 8, the method further comprising the step of, at the second switch, determining which phones should receive the group SMS message.

16. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group in accordance with claim 15, the method further comprising the step of forwarding the group SMS message from the second switch to the second wireline phone.

17. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group in accordance with claim 8, wherein the step of sending the group SMS message from the switch to a first wireline phone comprises sending the group SMS message via a plurality of segmented messages.

18. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group, the wireline SMS group comprising a plurality of wireline phones, the method comprising:

    sending a group SMS message for the wireline SMS group from the first wireline phone to a gatekeeper database;

    determining at the gatekeeper database the directory number of each of the phones in the wireline SMS group; and

    sending the group SMS message from the gatekeeper database to the phones in the wireline SMS group.

19. (Original) A method for sending a message from a first wireline phone to a wireline SMS group in accordance with claim 18, wherein the step of determining at the gatekeeper database the directory number of each of the phones in the wireline SMS group comprises determining the location utilizing directory number to switch mapping.